

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to an amendment filed 8/31/07.
2. Claims 1-5, 7-17 and 19-24 are pending in this application; and, claims 1, 17, 20, 23 and 24 are independent claims. Claims 6 and 18 have been cancelled; and, claims 1, 17, 20, 23 and 24 have been amended. This action is made Final.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12-17, 19-21 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moehrle in view of Chu et al. ("Chu").

As per claim 1, although Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising a set component that identifies sets of data (figs. 1(a-b); sets of data 10a-10b) and a display component that displays at least one data set in a semi-collapsed view (figs. 1(a-b); semi-collapsed view 10b), Moehrle does not explicitly disclose a display component that displays at least one data set in a semi-collapsed view, a collapsed view, *and* an expanded view. Chu teaches a display component that displays at least one data set in a semi-collapsed view, a collapsed view, and an expanded view (fig. 7A; paragraphs [0045], [0048], [0050] and [0057]). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Chu with the method of Moehrle to provide users only the data view of interest.

As per claim 2, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising the display component view displaying a subset of the at least one data set in an expanded view (Moehrle: fig. 1b; expanded view 10c), and another subset in a collapsed view (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 46-48; collapsed view 10a).

As per claim 4, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising a quantity of data items displayed in the semi-collapsed view being based, at least in part, upon a user selection (Moehrle: col. 1, lines 37-53).

As per claim 5, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising a quantity of data items displayed in the semi-collapsed view being based, at least in part, upon a function of available display area (Moehrle: col. 1, lines 23-37).

As per claim 7, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising cycling being based, at least in part, upon user input (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 46-48).

As per claim 10, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising information displayed in the semi-collapsed view being based, at least in part, upon a user's focus of attention (Moehrle: col. 1, lines 37-53).

As per claim 12, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising the sets of data representing a logical or physical grouping of data items (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); e.g. hierarchical menus of fig. 1b are organized under "file").

As per claim 13, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising grouping being based, at least in part, upon at least one of physical location of the data items, author of the data items, creation time or date of the data items, modification time or date of the data items, data item size, data item type, data item category and content of the data items (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); grouping by category/content).

As per claim 14, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data wherein at least some of the data items are computer files (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 18-53).

As per claim 15, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising a file viewer (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 18-53).

As per claim 16, the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising an input device that facilitates navigation of the semi-collapsed view (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 37-53; selection of a node/menu item is described for display wherein an input device is inherent in order to facilitate such a selection).

Claims 17 and 19, in combination, are similar in scope to claim 1 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 20, although Moehrle teaches a user interface comprising a first region displaying some data items of a first data set in a semi-collapsed view and a second region displaying data items of a second data set in a collapsed or expanded view (figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 37-53; expanded 10c, semi-collapsed view 10b and collapsed view 10a), Moehrle does not explicitly disclose a display component that

displays at least one data set in a semi-collapsed view, an expanded view, *and* a collapsed view. Chu teaches a display component that displays at least one data set in a semi-collapsed view, an expanded view, and a collapsed view (fig. 7A; paragraphs [0045], [0048], [0050] and [0057]). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Chu with the method of Moehrle to provide users only the data view of interest.

As per claim 21, the modified Moehrle teaches a user interface comprising a control region that facilitates scrolling through the first data set of the first region (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 37-53; e.g. 10c is a result of scrolling through the first data set of the first region (10b)).

Claim 24 is similar in scope to claim 1 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

5. Claims 3, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moehrle in view of Chu et al. ("Chu"), and further in view of Screen Dumps of Microsoft Windows XP ("MS XP").

As per claims 3, 8 and 9, although the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising information displayed in the semi-collapsed view being based, at least in part, upon a function of available display area (Moehrle: col. 1, lines 23-37), the modified Moehrle does not explicitly disclose a semi-collapsed view being based, at least in part, upon inference of a user's preference and/or history of a user, including a user state. MS XP teaches a semi-collapsed view being based, at least in part, upon inference of a user's preference and/or history of a user, including a user

state (figs. 3 and 5; e.g. inference of user's preference based upon history of user selection so that a person having a word processing application instantiated can view a representation of word processing application document(s) displayed in the squeeze/semi-collapsed state). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of MS XP with the method of the modified Moehrle in order to take into consideration how users have used the interface to best establish an optimal layout and user environment.

6. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moehrle in view of Chu et al. ("Chu").

As per claim 11, although the modified Moehrle teaches a system that facilitates access to data comprising at least some of the information displayed in the semi-collapsed view (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 37-53; semi-collapsed view 10b), the modified Moehrle does not explicitly disclose the information being color-coded. Official Notice is taken that displaying color-coded information is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate displaying color-coded information with the method of the modified Moehrle to give focus or emphasis to certain information such as having information in a menu grayed out to give emphasis that such information is not user accessible.

7. Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moehrle in view of Chu et al. ("Chu"), and further in view of Screen Dumps of East ("East").

As per claim 22, although the modified Moehrle teaches a user interface comprising a scrolling control region that facilitates access to the data items of the first

data set (Moehrle: figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 37-53; e.g. 10c is a result of scrolling through the first data set of the first region (10b)), the modified Moehrle does not explicitly disclose a scroll bar or a scroll bar that facilitates access to data items. East teaches a scroll bar or a scroll bar that facilitates access to data items (figs. 3 and 4). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of East with the method of the modified Moehrle in order to view obscured items as in the case when the menu is expanded or when the window is scaled.

8. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moehrle in view of Chu et al. ("Chu"), and further in view of Screen Dumps of IE ("IE").

As per claim 23, although Moehrle teaches a first field comprising information associated with at least one data set to be displayed in a semi-collapsed view and a second field comprising information associated with another data set to be displayed in at least one of an expanded view and a collapsed view (figs. 1(a-b); col. 1, lines 37-53; expanded 10c, semi-collapsed view 10b and collapsed view 10a), Moehrle does not explicitly disclose a display component that displays at least one data set in a semi-collapsed view, a collapsed view, *and* an expanded view. Chu teaches a display component that displays at least one data set in a semi-collapsed view, a collapsed view, and an expanded view (fig. 7A; paragraphs [0045], [0048], [0050] and [0057]). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Chu with the method of Moehrle to provide users only the data view of interest.

Moehrle and Chu still do not explicitly disclose a data packet transmitted between two or more computer components that facilitate access to data. IE teaches a data packet transmitted between two or more computer components that facilitates access to data the data packet comprising a first field comprising information associated with at least one data set to be displayed in a semi-collapsed view (fig. 3; *transmitted data packet via the IE browser layer "http://..."*) and a second field comprising information associated with another data set to be displayed in at least one of an expanded view and a collapsed view (fig. 5; *"3 Weeks Ago" of "History", which includes a collapsed view of "Today", is displayed in an expanded view and can be displayed in a collapsed view via another click of "3 Weeks Ago"*). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of IE with the method of Moehrle and Chu in order to reach across physical boundaries and allow users to communicate with remote computers.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP §

706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Inquires

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lê Nguyen whose telephone number is **(571) 272-4068**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached at (571) 272-4063.

Art Unit: 2174

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

lvn

Patent Examiner
November 6, 2007

/Steven P Sax/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2174